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Thanks Due to Providence, not to John Sherman.

If the political figures which John Sher-MAN and the bureaus of the Treasucy by his direction make to order, with a strong soat of varnish to heighten the official coloring, were even half true, the country would be happy and prosperous. But, unfortunately, they are manufactured for effect and to deceive the unwary. Take as an illustration the recent statement of John Shekman, intended to show a vast improvement in the condition of things between the beginning and the closing period of the financial revulsion.

"The production," he says, "of wheat and sorn, the two leading cereal productions of the country, indicates a large increase last year over the production of 1873. The production of corn in 1873 was 932,000,000 bushels; in 1878 about 1,360,000,000 bushels. Production of wheat in 1873 was 284,000,000 bushels: in 1878 it was 425,000,000 bushels."

According to this exhibit, it is claimed that the corn crop of 1878 exceeded that of 1873 by the enormous sum of 428,000,000 bushels. In a normal state of affairs that great difference should have been for the benefit of the farmers, by whose toil the sorn crop was produced.

But when this crop was sold, instead of yielding a result in money proportionate to the increased production, it realized over a hundred millions of dollars less than that of 1873. And this rude experience was extended also to the other leading cereals. The wheat erop of 1878 was 141,000,000 bushels greater than the one of 1873; but when the returns of sales came in it was found that what may be called the short crop of 1873 sold for more than sixty millions of dollars above and beyoud the long crop of 1878.

In these two crops alone there was a difberence against the farmers of more than one hundred and sixty millions of dollars. and this ratio extended to most other agrioultural products, as the farmers well know to their cost. The pretence, therefore, of these charlatans that quantity in crops is an evidence of prosperity, falls to the ground by the simple weight of truth. The additional labor in tilling the soil and the other elements which entered into the raising of the crops of 1878 were so much loss to the farmers as compared with 1873.

This year we are blessed with extraordipary crops, while the harvests over most of Europe, except Russia, are unusually bad, in wheat especially. A coincidence of long crops with long prices will probably bring compensation for previous misfortunes and add materially to that revival in many branches of industry which is at last, after long suffering and depreciation of property, forty-five millions of people. The crop must be moved, and the railroads must be put in condition to do the work. The mere starting of this immense machine demands millions of dollars and millions of hands. In full motion, both must be increased; and then, with prudence to guide the future. profiting by the harsh lessons of the past, the outlook may be considered hopeful.

The Afghans.

What real hold has YACUB KHAN on the loose congeries of tribes which are supposed to owe him fealty? The question has become of importance, now that the Ameer is believed either to have connived at the recent outbreak or, at least, to have been forced to sanction the movement in self-de-What special tie, for instance, at taches to him the Mohmunds, who, we are told, have taken an active part in the uprising? What is the source of his influence over the great Ghilzai group, whom, according to a telegram, he has called to arms? Above all, what is the precise relatron of the present ruler, and of his dynasty, to the powerful Durani clan which has long formed the dominant element in Afghanistan? Some clear notion of these matters is essential to an understanding of current telegrams.

Both from a numerical and an historical point of view the two foremost tribes or the Afghan or Pathan race are the Ghilsals and the Duranis. The ancestral home of the latter lies in and about Herat, stretching eastward to a point somewhat beyond Candahar. That city, however, was originally included in the Ghilzal country, which still covers the whole southeastern part of Afghanistan. The Ghilzals are reputed to be descended from the illegitimate son of an exiled Persian prince, Shah Hus-BEIN, but they were the first to throw off the Persian yoke and to give independence to the Afghan tribes who previously had been ruled from Ispahan or from Delhi. It was not much more than a century and a half ago that the Ghilzais in the neigh-Borhood of Candahar rose against their Persian governor, and made one of their chiefs, MIR VAIS, King.

The dynasty thus created in 1707 had a brilliant but short career, and was dethroned in 1737 by the Persian General, Na-DIR SHAH. The latter had been assisted in his Eastern conquests by an Aighan chief named AHMED KHAN, the head of the Sudosye family of the Abdali clan. After the death of Nadir Shan, his Afghan Heu enant set himself up as King in Candahar, the difference between his dynasty and that of MIR VAIS being that in the latter case the Chilzais and in the former the Abdalis were the controlling tribe. In the hope of appeasing the enmity between these clans, which, however, has not been wholly healed unto this day, AHMED assumed the title of Duri-i-Duran (Pearl of the Age), and henceforth the Abdalis became known as the Duranis. At the present day the Duranis are much the stronger, numbering about threequarters of a million souls, whereas their traditional rivals do not muster more than three or four hundred thousand. The dominant tribe is generally credited with more spirit and bravery, though the Ghlizais have given ample proof of martial qualities.

It is not, however, to the Sudosye branch of the Duranis that Yacun Khan belongs. During the latter years of the last century and the earlier years of the present, the Ghilzals kept up the struggle for supremacy, and though they were unable to gain throne for themselves, they helped to transfer it to another subdivision of the Duranis. Under one of AHMED KHAN'S SUCcessors a chief of the Barneksye branch became a sort of mayor of the palace, and

well known as Dost Mohammed displaced the Sudosye line, and became sole Ameer at Cabul. It was not, however, until 1843 that the new Barucksye house was firmly estab-

lished in the mastery of the whole country. Thus it appears that Dost MOHAMMED and his grandson, the present ruler, can invoke the ties of hereditary clanhood only as regards one branch of the Durani tribe, and must find in the other their most implacable enemies. Heretofore the Ghilzais have uniformly supported the present dynasty from their hatred of the Sudosye line, which had supplanted their own leaders. Moreover, YACUB KHAN has a special hold upon them, having married the daughter of one of their mest prominent chiefs. It was this fact quite as much as Lord North-BROOK's protest which saved YACUB'S life when five years ago he was arrested by his father and thrown into prison, from which he only emerged upon SHERE ALI's flight

from Cabul. It is also through family relationship that the present ruler exercises peculiar control over the Mohmunds, his mother having been the daughter of one of their chiefs. Nowroz Khan, who was supposed some months ago to have brought the Mohmunds over to the British side, is YACUB's maternal uncle. This tribe, it must be remembered, occupy the territory adjoining the Khyber Pass upon the north, and they are said to be able to put from 15,000 to 20,000 men into the field. Between the Khyber Pass and the Kuram Pass dwell the Afridis, whom the Ameer can only influence by subsidies, in which, of course, the English can outbid him. The same may be said of the Waziris, whose country lies south of the Kuram Valley. It was an Afridi, by the way, who killed Lord Mayo.

On the whole, YACUB KHAN'S position is In some respects stronger than his father's. Resides his dynastic title to the allegiance of the Barucksye branch of the Duranis, who have for some time stood forth as champions of the nation, and who possess in Herat the most coveted military position. he has claims of his own to the support of the Mohmund hill tribe which most threatens the Khyber Pass, and of that large Ghilzal clan whose power stretches from the neighborhood of Candahar, their ancient capital, to the southeast angle of the king-

The Decay of Camp Meetings.

Time was when the camp meeting, as a means of grace, stood high in the esteem of several orthodox Protestant sects. Saints and sinners flocked by thousands to the selected spots, pitched their tents, endured the discomforts of weather, poorly pre pared food and pestering insects, and went home, presumedly richer in holy experiences. There was every evidence of genuine devotion in these gatherings. The peo ple gave up their time to the meeting; the preachers prepared for it as for no other event of the year. For two weeks, as a rule there was continuous song, prayer, and preaching. True, there were frivolities, but they were exceptions. The great mass went for the sake of religion. Hundreds of religious professors date the time of their change of heart from that hour when, in the stillness of the forest, by the light of blazing logs, the appeal to be saved came with such force that stout hearts first quivered and then melted to submission. There was a wierdness of surrounding at those summer night open air meetings that was

But the camp meeting has been going to decay. In place of the forest, the seashore or some spot of popular resort came to be chosen on which to pitch the tents. Then followed the erection of buildings and booths. The worldly hotel keeper, with his billiard hall, his dancing parlor, and unconsecrated bowling alley, put in an appear ance. Cottages took the places of tents. and there was preaching under a roof illumined with petroleum or gasoline, instead of beneath overhanging branches by the light of the camp fire. The young folks went to the hop instead of the prayer meeting, and the old people sought comfort and pleasure apart from the few worshippers The camp meeting grounds became places of summer resort. Sea Cliff, Ocean Grove, lound Lake, Chautaugua Thousand Island Park, the chief camp meeting grounds of the East, bear no resem blance to the clif-fashioned assemblages. The Sing Sing meeting, from being one of the most noted, has become almost unheard of. In comparison with Ocean Grove it has no attractions. In remote rural districts a few thinly-attended meetings are yet ken up, but their number decreases so rapidly

that the end of them is manifestly near. Love of ease and of show doubtless ha had much to do with this change. The temptation to occupy a cosey cottage ! stead of a cheerless tent was too great to be resisted, and once installed in it, the occupant found the mind drawn from holy things to earthly attractions. The remova of camp meetings from the forest to the seashore may have been a device of the devil

Coalitions in Massachusetts.

Gen. BUTLER is trying to get elected Governor of Massachusetts by means of a coalition among several parties which have scarcely anything in common except hostility to the ruling elements in the Republican organization. Can such a coalitier succeed in that staid old Commonwealth That is a hard question; but this we know, that on one occasion a coalition in Massa chusetts, made up of factions quite as hostile to each other as the present ones. and as open to criticism as this is, was eminently successful.

We refer to the famous coalition in the winter of 1851, and which had its origin in the understanding between the factions in the elections of the previous fall. The Whig party, then dominant in the State, had been all-powerful for many years under the lead of Webster, Everett, Choate, Winthrop and their associates. The regular Democratic party, swayed by George Bancroft Col. Greene of the Boston Post, Robert RANTOUL, and CALEB CUSHING, then a recent convert from Websterism, could make only feeble headway against the Whigs. But factions more or less influen tial had sprung up within a few years which, in common with the Democracy felt the heavy pressure of the rule of the ancient Whig régime, and were ready to strike hands with anybody for its overthrow. There were the Conscience Whigs led by CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, and the Free Soilers, with HENRY WILSON at their head, and the old school Abolitionists who owed allegiance to nothing but their cardinal principles.

The Democrats and these three minor factions indirectly cooperated with each other in the elections of 1850. There being no choice of Governor by the people, that office must be filled by the Legislature of 1851. That body had to elect a Senator in Congress to occupy the old seat of Webster. A Judge of the Supreme Court was to be elected Other important officers were to be appointed. The Legislature was anti-Whig; but the coalition had not a vote to spare after his murder, a brother who was to be | The result was that GEORGE S. BOUTWELL.

then a Democrat, was chosen Governor by the Legislature, and CALEB CUSHING, also a Democrat, was elevated to the Supreme bench. For these and other like favors the Democrats, after a long and bitter struggle, were compelled to pay the high price of electing CHARLES SUMNER to the United States Senate.

These were quite as great achievements as it would be for the present conlitton to elect Gen. BEN BUTLER Governor.

The Right to Bear Arms. Special legislation is a bad thing, but general legislation framed to cover special cases or aimed at particular persons is not a good thing.

The new militia law of Illinois is legislation of that sort. It was passed chiefly, if not solely, to prevent certain German-born American citizens living in Chicago from drilling and parading in the streets with real muskets and the other outward and

visible signs of a military company. The new law prescribes the number and organization of the armed militia of the State, and provides that outside or amateur military companies shall not be permitted to drill or parade unless they obtain a license for the purpose from the Governor.

The framers of this law reckoned without Judge BARNUM of the Cook County Circuit Court. In two cases this Judge has decided that the act is unconstitutional.

In the first of these cases a member of the Chicago company already referred to, who had been convicted of the offence of drilling without a license, was brought before Judge Barnum on a writ of habeas corpus. The Judge held that the law was unconstitutional in that it undertook to deprive citizens of the inalienable right to bear arms; that this right involved the right to be instructed in the use of arms, to organize, to have officers, to drill. Moreover, the law was held to be in contravention of the act of 1792, which directs the enrolling of all able-bodied citizens in the militia. In the second case, Judge Barnum decided that the provision of the law exempting militiamen from jury duty was unconstitutional.

The question will of course be taken up to the Supreme Court of the State. Pending the decision of that tribunal, Gov. CULLOM tells the reporters he is going to execute the law, Judge BARNUM's opinions to the contrary notwithstanding. But he will doubtless change his mind on this point.

Love at Fifty and Love at Fourteen.

We have before us two letters, which are both provocative of thought and suggest interesting reflections. The one relates to the sentimental difficulties of a man of fifty, and the other tells of the perplexities of a school girl of fourteen, who hesitates about taking back to her favor a repentant lover who, after a year's devotion to her, fell a prey to the fascinations of a prettier, but less highly accomplished, maiden. Thus we see youth and age meeting at the confessional of THE SUN. Inexperience is no readler in asking advice and no more distrustful of itself than ripe judgment and hard worldly wisdom.

Our mature correspondent is a resident of the interior of this State. He does not tell us whether he is a bachelor or a widower, and, indeed, it was not necessary that he should do so. A man who has been married once is no more likely to pick out a suitable second wife than a man who is single to choose a desirable property. In that business experience can never be trusted as a teacher. An old man is even more likely to make a fool of himself in what he may call love than a young and ardent victim of the tender passion; and widowers have no reason to boast themselves over bachelors as cleverer adepts is the matrimonial game. There is no use of arguing this point. Everybody knows it is

incontrovertible. Our New York friend has reached the age of fifty, just the period of life when a man ought to know what he wants, and yet he can't make up his mind which one of three women to marry! It is a wonder that h has worked his resolution up to the point of

taking a wife at all. This is his story: "Sin I am a man of 50 years of age. I am a

"Sis. I am a man of 50 years of age. I am worth ten thousand dollars. I am waiting upon three different ladies, whose ages range from 18 to 25. I leve the whole three; but the one of 18 I dq love dearly. I think the is a little dave, and I think she is very fond of me—at lenst she says she is.
"But the question is, do you not think it would be better for me to marry the one of 321. Would not she devote her time more to me than the young one? Would not the young one get sick of living with a man so far advanced in years?

The middle-aged one I do love her dearly; but one of

Besides, I weigh 180 pounds. Please advise me which one I ought to marry.

There is no question of ought about it. Not naving committed yourself to either, under what obligation are you to marry at all? The woman of thirty-five might perhaps devote herself to you more than the girl of eighteen; and, on the other hand, being sickly, she might rather require you to nurse her, while her numerous relatives kept an eye on that ten thousand dollars. As to the little dove, she may be fond of you after a fashion, or she may be secretly making fun of you as a silly old man. You can't tell, and, that being the case, you will show that you are not what she may fancy, and avoid making an experiment which i likely to turn out unhappily, by letting her alone to bestow her affections on some one nearer her own age. You need no further

Our schoolgirl correspondent's case is no more serious, we are happy to say. Indeed, it is like a baby's bruise, which may be healed with a kiss, or a nervous disorder which yields to a bread pill. She herself represents it as nothing alarming in this her letter:

" Six: I am a young girl-very young, in tact-just 14. year ago last winter a boy of 18 or 20 fell deeply in love with me, and the course of true love ran smoothly for one year, when he got very lealous of a boy that went to school with me, and hegan making love to a girl who, though somewhat prettier, had not helf my talents, ac implishments, or standing, and was also stilly and ve configurations or standing and was also slip and variable. Early last spring the girl went away and he went to school. He came back when school was out, and is trying to win his former place in my esteem. He has been complaining to my friends that I will not speak to him. I have once or twice seen for thought it saw) him touch his hat or how to me, but, being doubtful. Thought it best not to take any notice. He seems to be very axious to make friends with me. very anxious to make friends with me.
"Most I write to nim and tell him I am willing to make

riends with him, or wait for him to write to me. he is too much ashamed of his behavior to try to ask m " Now, dear Editor, I trust you implicitly in such mat-

"Now, dear Editor, a transity of the pour opinion freely, ters, and hope you will give me your opinion freely, "Winosa." It can all be settled, Miss WINONA, just as you wish it settled, and at the very moment you are ready to restore him to the favor he longs for. Of course, he mustn't bow to you first. That would be all wrong, presumptuous on his part, and an offence against the laws of propriety. If you are disposed to grant him forgiveness you have only to bow pleasantly to him when next you meet. His spirits will rise at once, and you will have the recreant boy back to deal with as you choose. But don't fall in love with him again. To do that would be a great mistake. Wait five or six years before you give your heart away again, to him or to any other man. Schoolgirls can't properly attend to their studies and be falling in love at the same time, and when they

get out of school there is plenty of time left for that delightful business.

But of the two, the man of fifty and the girl of fourteen, which is the more foolish?

The one noteworthy thing in Hayes's first speech in Zachehandlerdom was his declaration that the Government officials could "claim no credit" for the return of good times and the general booming of business. A few more utterances of this sort will go far to convince JOHN SHERMAN that it isn't safe to allow HAYES to travel by himself-or even in the custody of Brother WILLIAM TROUMSUH.

This week Venus retires behind the sun, while Jupiter, rising early in the east, succeeds to her honors and duties as morning star. For the past month Venus has been one of the most attractive objects in the heavens, making up in beauty for what she has lacked of the interest that just now attaches to her gigantic rival on account of the tremendous physical disturbances whose effects are visible on his disk. The finest views of Venus, after she reached her greatest brightness a few weeks ago, were obtained in the daytime. With a perforated cap placed over the object glass of the telescope to shut out the glare of the sun, she was seen on the background of blue sky like a delicate silver crescent, much larger than the new moon appears to the naked eye.

Saturn now rises early enough to be well seen with the telescope long before midnight, and the gradual opening out of his wonderful rings will be one of the most interesting sights in the heavens for three or four years to come.

Mars comes up later, but he is growing in brightness. His two little moons are beyond the reach of small telescopes, but the snow fields about his poles and the outlines of his continents and oceans are not, and a more interesting and wonderful sight than this earthlike planet presents in a telescope bearing magnifying powers of 250 or 300 diameters cannot well be imagined.

The picturesqueness and freshness, both of landscape and figure painting, afforded by the Zulu war, have attracted the attention of many artists. One is said to be engaged on Rorke's Drift; another on the feat of Col. Cou-HILL and Lieut. MELVILLE in saving the British colors; but the strangest subject is that of M. PROTAIS, who is said to be painting for the ex-Empress Eugenie the late Prince Imperial, as he lay dead in the Zulu maize field. One would suppose that this scene, which must so often have come to the mind of the ex-Empress. would be the last that she would like to have perpetuated on canyas.

The Panama Star and Herald has no faith in the proposed Nicaragua ship canal, and points out serious errors in statements which have been set affoat with a view of bolstering up the project, and making it acceptable to moneyed men. The Star and Herald says:

"The attempt beretofore made to improve the San Juan River has not been successful, as all who are famil-

The pretense that an accurate survey of the route has been made seems to be sufficiently refuted by the fact that the Nicaraguan Government has determined upon another survey. and the Star and Herald adds:

"We hope that we shall certainly now be furnished, with the exact fleures at which a ship canal can be carried across a volcame cointry, one hundred and eighty niles from sea to sea, with a multitude of locks and feeders, strifficial harbors, &c., &c."

The figures will certainly be sufficiently tall to deter prudent capitalists from taking stock in the enterprise.

The victims of the visiting cricketers the past week have been the Canadian teams of Toronto and Hamilton, who finely set off the provess of DAFT's eleven, and the American teams of Syracuse and Staten Island, who rendered a like service to Mr. Hone's. The Staten Islanders at least had the good judgment to play eighteen men against twelve, which rendered the match more even than the one at Hoboken-not so much by increasing their own score at the bat as by keeping down that of the visitors, through having a large number of men

Gen. TECUMSER SHERMAN often makes queer speeches, and sometimes he says what for his own reputation he would better have left unsaid. At Youngstown, Ohio, last Wednesday, he is reported to have spoken as fol-

Asia or any other land on earth. He comes to presides over your deliberations. He was once clond. He is still your Colonel. His heart heats ally toward each and every one of you new as it. If That is a type of human character which you find anywhere else on this globe, but the world me tail."

That is sorry stuff for the General of the Army to utter. And he had begun his speech by more of the same sort:

"As said by the President, it is not the time appointed for sceaking. It by a single word or a single sentence I could do more to honor him who has

And less said of that kind would have been better for Gen. SHERMAN.

Mr. W. M. EVARTS complains that the Mormon missionaries in Europe are "operating beyond the reach of the laws of the United States." But there are dozens and scores of Mormon missionaries operating in this country. They are found in nearly all the States. They make no secret of their whereabouts or of their work. They are entirely "within the reach of the laws." Why does not Mr. EVARTS

turn his attention to these missionaries? Because he knows perfectly well that they have the same right under the Constitution and laws of the United States to preach and proselytize that his own pastor has.

The plan of the second international dairy fair, which is to be held next December in this city, is even more impressive than that of its predecessor. The pyramids of cheese will be more ponderous, the pots, pans, and piles of outter will spread over a vaster area, and hoice cattle will be shown not in single specimens only but in herds. While the senses are thus regaled, the mind will be fed with a daily discussion of dairy topics, which will be inrested with all the witchery that wisdom, wit, experiment, and experience can give. Who knows but these afternoon dairy discussions may become as fashionable as morning lectures

The rise and progress of Courtney's boils and Hankan's blisters are now watched with in-tense interest, and reported with great particularity. These important tidings are varied with rumors that the Canadian has a cough or the New Yorker a stomachache. Daily bulletins on the health and well being of these rival knights of the oar may be looked for until the race of Lake Chantaugua is over.

He Likes the Bell.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I understand that there has been a complaint in The Ses re-parding the hell of the Church of the Annunciation in West Fourteenth street. I have lived in the Shirth Ward, within a stone's throw of the church, for the last righteen years and although I rarding the hell of the thorse of the West Fourteenth street.

West Fourteenth street.
I have lived in the Shith Ward, within a stone's throw of the church, for the last eighbeen years, and although I am not an Episcopalisi. I can treely say that the chiming of the bell referred to, far from being an annoyance, has always been a positive pleasure to me.

LLANGENDER,

Where his Money Went.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: One of r customers failed a few months ago, and at a cred tors' meeting he was asked, on his offering ten cents on the dollar, where his momey had gone. He drew from his pocket a large package of lottery tickets, and, hold-ing them over his head, replied. "Gourleman, there is where my money went to; at least not mine, but yours. These are only a few of them." The creditors got nothing. Daos In.

Too Young.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Can a voung man who lacks only one day of being 21 years of age vote? A bets B that he can. B bets A that he cannut.

A. KAOUL.

NEW YORE, Sept. 19. The young man cannot vote, and A loses his

WHAT IS GOING ON IN EUROPE.

The news of the massacre of Sir Louis Cavagnari and his companions at Cabul was received in London on the afternoon of Saturday, the 6th instant. It fell upon the country with the effect of a "sudden, stunning blow"—to use the words of the Pall Mall Gazette; and there has since been little clae than excitement,

anxiety, and confusion.

The consequences to the Government will undoubtedly be serious, and the Opposition already gives ample evidence that it has adopted a new policy in which the criminal mismanagement of the Afgian business will be fully utilized. Not even the conclusion of the African cam paign, following as it did so closely upon the heels of the disaster at Cabul, can divert the popular wrath from the Ministers. This is but natural, particularly as English people have lately developed a singular tendency to disclose well-marked phases of national lunacy, such as students of social science affect to discover in violent exhibitions of popular feeling consequent upon inadequate provocation.

Whatever the result may be to the Govern-

ment, public sentiment does not materially vary as to the course to be pursued. The massacre will be avenged at any cost, and the necessity that it shall be so avenged will not be obscured by political dissensions or the desire for domestic retribution. While this indicates pretty clearly the general feeling, it is curious to note how the idea of annexation is deprecated by the press, and how diffident the leading and semi-official utterances are concerning that aspect of the case. To outsiders this may appear strange, but the explanation of it is un doubtedly to be found in the grave apprehension that has come with the news from Cabul that the undetermined and all-powerful factor in the whole situation is Russia. On the one hand, the fact is not to be any

longer concealed that the Afghan policy cannot be enforced by any measures short of those that imply annexation; and, on the other hand, it is thoroughly understood that any steps in that direction can be made only with the consent of Russia. This means that the fears that were allayed for the time being by Lord Beaconsfield's "peace with honor" achievements at Berlin are once more excited, and that the prospect is presented of a contest with Russia in a field in which the latter has long been anxious to fight, and in which her arms and her intrigue would render her well nigh in-

The general aspect of the present situation in Europe affords singular reassurance of the progress of mankind in the direction of a higher civilization, wherein war shall be an ab-horred manifestation of uneradicated barbarism and the sole and absorbing pursuit of man shall be the elevation of humanity. It is comforting to any one with a trace of optimism in his constitution to compare the dispositions. aims, and ambitions of peoples and their rulers at the present day with those recorded of nations that exist only in history. Whereas in the past the territory of one people was always being causelessly invaded by another people. or one people eagerly sought a pretext to annex the property of a weaker people, or assiduously avenged wrongs, in the righting of which valuable considerations accrued; or espoused the scientific government of mankind as a religious creed, and inculcated it at great loss and expense to neighboring peoples whereas such things were indicative of the benighted condition of earlier and even later nations, and excite in our time emotions of such profound sympathy and pity as we care to waste upon individuals who do not any longer need such concern upon our part-nowadays it is the mild function of the historian to chronicle the achievements of philosophy and the progress of a higher humanity.

Science has demonstrated that war is not a necessity, that no pretext can make it other than barbarous, and that as a method of adjusting differences of opinion it can be dispensed with. Nothing has been more abundantly or convincingly proven than that the only boundaries essential to the effective management of national economies are those that are strictly ethnological. In fact, there is no aspect of national expediency or political necessity that philosophy has not fitted with a suitable form of scientific adjustment, and there is not to-day a thoughtful or educated person in all Europe that is not fully aware of the fact, and that does not implicitly believe it. Otherwise, what is the meaning of the British Association? What was the

aternational Peace Congress, and why? What better explanation could be desired of the present attitudes of France, Germany, Austria, Russia, England, and the rest toward each other? Mr. Herbert Spencer thinks privately that it is all right, because for eighty years the British Government knew that lime juice was a specific for scurvy, and yet did not allow its use in the royal navy, where the sailors diad of the disease like sheep of the dry rot, urging as an objection that it had not previously been the custom to use it. The idea is that even in our day the natural disposition of mankind is to be conservative and that it will take a great many years to convince Russia, for instance, that England has a right to do as she pleases and that the noblest pursuit of man lies in the minding of his own could do more to honor him who has now here to day to word afford me creat pleasure—but now the less said prosper for some time to come, and that nations prosper for some time to come, and that nations will do things of which individuals would be ashamed, and that enormous sums of arduously acquired wealth will be consumed in resolving such an expensive commodity as grapowder. for example, into its elemental gases. If one were to advertise to unrow a death dealing device capable of annialitating a whole people at a blow, and conseque) tly insuring universal peace hereafter, the fir . peace hereafter, the fir · customer would be Count Bismarck, who would buy the patent outright and send the whole world a copy of "Ollendorff" the next day.

The capture of Cetywayo puts an end to the Zulu difficulty for some time to come, and affords the Government an opportunity of establishing some British Residents of remote places as a sort of stimulant to native enterprise. English people will derive very little gratification in reviewing the African compaign and contemplating the millions expended in pursuing a colored gentleman in a bre-echelout all over his native country, and finally capturing him, not because his head was not a !! right, but because there was something the matter with his stomach. The opinion is expressed that the worthy man will be hanged. He forminently deserves it. For the wretch who could deliberately defend his native country agaitist the invasion of a Christian foe there should be no better fate. The fact is, there is only ne worse contingency that could happen to the unfortunate Zuiu King, and that is that he \ hould be made the victim of the same kind of political debauchery that placed Yakoob Khan countrymen as a hired tool and palyl traitor. Yakoob ought to envy him if he is handged.

Every now and then his Royal High ness the Prince of Wales poses as "the first st intleman in Europe," and emphasizes the more it tone of the period he graces. He has figured with the easy impunity of royalty in several clomestic disagreements brought about by a boutal in-difference on the part of husbands, to his royal predilections and desires. Whether Mr. Langtry will get a divorce from Mrs Langtry or not remains to be seen. If he does he will do his wife a great social unkinde ess, because, as social law now interprets itself in chaolute Great Britain, her position had the sanction of society, and actually conformed a very appreciable distinction on her. He wher husband could show so little tact or deplicacy, and so little consideration for her, as to overthrow by one injudicious act the success- and riumph of her lifetime, is past compreher sion. However, nothing better was to be expected of Langtry. He was a low fellow from the very beginning. It will be recollected that for ir or five years ago the Prince of Wales invited himself to breakfast with Mrs. Langiry, and was rather put out to find that Langtry had the bad grace to be at home.

Mrs. Wheeler is another "professional bleauy" upon whom his Royal Highness has cast; an eye of approval—a proceeding of his which hits much in common with the traditional relation of the moon to freehly caught mackerel. It fl.

amusing to find her husband writing a letter to state that she is not in a yacht at Plymouth and has not been at Plymouth in a yacht or His Royal Highness is likely to otherwise. break up the "professional beauty" business

altogether.

The ciothes worn by one beauty at a recen garden party are thus described:

The upper portion, or holy, which extended without change of substance to very nearly the knee, was composed of a coursely knutted pinkwill, leavey, on into the flare, and fluing it like the very lightest of sel sains. The skirt was short; cashingre of the same criter, killed in tails, and apparently factured on to the top part by a drawed sport, with long order, which was made of the catter material as the bods. As this last was located up at the felt side, and as the larr wearer ken her arm detrimined over the cayout holes, large stims of memory are described over the cayout holes, have stims of memory are done to be a substantial of the cayout holes, have stims of memory are done for the cayout holes, have stims of memory are done for the cayout holes, have stims of memory are done for the cayout holes, have stims of memory are the cayout to get into the cayout holes, have stims of memory are the cayout of the cayout the processing of the continuous flat in the cayout the virtual stims and up of the spin of the capacity of the virtuals British instron will seek the indicators.

Farly presentations.

Farly presentations above the stims of the stime of the stime and the stime. garden party are thus described:

Early prospectors above the timber line in the Rocky Mountains have often narrated experiences not unlike those that are described as

concess not unlike those that are described as follows:

On the 23d of August M. F. Strobl of Linz Joined a party which was making the ascent of the Gross Glockner, and let the Stedilatie at 2 o'clock in the morning, with a storm apparently threatening from the west. At 3 A. M. they found themselves in the middle of the storm cloud, and were connelled by the darkness to come to a complete half. Suddents the storm broke out directly show their heads, the thunder and lightning being at once awful and grand in the extreme. All matters seeined to be the scene of one vast configuration, and they prepared for the worst. The guide endeavored to console them, addressing them in these words: "Gentlemen, we shall all be string dead, in the swords, it matter? The lightning for some time their words in matter. The lightning for some time their interest in the consoleration of the strong days of the control of the contro

The probability is that they were in no par ticular danger. Miners similarly exposed in Colorado throw away their tools and dive into a convenient snowbank, but it is not on record that one of them was ever killed when caugh in the active centre of a thunder storm. Nature indoubtedly makes the requisite provision for them.

THE GHOSTLY MUSICIANS WHO PLAYED FOR MR. SICKLES.

Mr. George P. Sickles, father of Daniel E Sickles, is 84 years old; but, with his ruggedly intellectual face, vigorous manner and decisive peech, he seems twenty years younger. Leaning back in his easy chair, in the Nassau stree office, wherein he manages his real estate, he made a gesture that ended in a hard whack on his desk, and said: "If you had seen and heard what I have seen and heard, you would be as firm a spiritualist as I am, because you couldn'

Will you let me publish one of your convinc ing experiences?" the writer asked.

"I was still abed at nine o'clock one morning in my house at New Rochelle "the old gentle man responded, "but had been wide awake for some time. The door was opened suddenly, and a stranger stepped in, He was a handsome man, with a particularly pieasant expression of face. He had a dark complexion, dark brown hair, heavy side whiskers and a neatly trimmed moustache. He wore a brown coat with a fur collar, and a cap of fur. When he spoke, it was in a rich, well modulated voice.

"Good morning Mr. Sickles; how do you do? he said.
"He bowed politely removed his far a second man responded, "but had been wide awake for

do? he said.

"He bowed politely, removed his fur cap, and laid it on one of several boxes of documents that my son, the General, had sent to my house for safe keeping. I sat up in bed, and said:
"Good morning sir; but you have the advantage of me. I don't remember you."
I was a little astonished at a stranger entering my roomso unceremoniously, but he was so suave that I could hardly get angry. He did not explain who he was, but said, smilingly:
"Would you like to hear some music this morning?"

"Would you like to hear some music this morning?"

"I replied that I certainly would, if it was good, for I love music, and am a fair judge of it. He bowed again, wentto the door, threw it open, and waved his hand invitingly. His movements were exceedingly graceful, and his countenance took on an expression of delight, as though he was glad to be able to gratify me. Responsive to his gesture, a party of men entered, one after another. I was too bewildered to count them, but they were numerous enough to throng the apartment. They formed an irregular line around my bed, and awaited the order of my first visitor, who was plainly their leader. Each carried a musical instrument. These were of metal, and varied in size and shape, but I cannot describe them with particularity. The men were plainly dressed, but not in uniform, I think, though my observation as to that was not careful. The lender, who took a position near the head of my bed, produced a batton, and totsed it, with the manner of a professional conductor of an orchestra. Then the band bears to play the most beautiful music I have ever heard. The sounds of the various instruncats harmonized refrective, and the players were under absolute control of the leader, who waved his batton used both hands in playing them. So precisely was every players were under absolute control of the leader, who waved his baten most grassfully. They blew the instruments and used both hands in playing them. So precisely was everything done that the literappearance of being almost automatic; yet the fluors were seemingly live human beings. The tunes were seemingly live human beings. The tunes were seemingly live human beings. The tunes were seemingly live human beings of the fluores were seemingly and so, and so sirikingly bouldful that, during several cusuing months. I was able to recall and sing severa of them. This strange conject lasted an hour or more, and so entranged me that I did not interrupt it with a word. Finally, the leader stopped it with a motion of his batton and the men moved toward the door. I had panel back on my pillow; but at ting energies. caned back on my pillow; but at this concrure I set up again, and I suppose there was a look

I sat up meain, and I suppose there was a look of inquire on my fus.

Would you like to have us call again? the leader said, as though in response to my mute questioning, and he relead up his cap.

Indeed I word, I carerly replied.

By this time the musicians were fling out of the room. The leader did not say any more, by bowed assentingly, with his head ou his breast, smiled good humors— and backed himself out. Never have I seen a man of more perfect deportment.

himself out. Never have I seen a man of more perford deportment.

"It was only for an instant that I remained quiet. I knew well enough that this was a band of materialized spirits. I conjecture that it was some once famous musical organization, and that the leader, if I could find his face among the portraits of famous musicians, would turn out to be somebody familiar in history. Well, as I said, I was only for a moment innerive. Desiring to be convinced, beyond the possibility of mistake that my visitors were not mother. mistake, that my visitors were not mortals, I called loudly to my little granddaughter, whom I heard in the hallway. She came immediately, "Did some grantforms as a content of the conten

I heard in the hallway. She came immediately, "Did some gentlemen go past you in the hallway? I asked." No. sir, she replied.
"You are mistaken." I continued; 'run down and onen the door for them.
"The child wonderingly but readily obeyed; and came back at once, saying that no men were there. The spirits had taken their materialized bedies, clothing and instruments, no further than the cuter side of my door. No doubt the conditions of my room had been favorable for such a wonderful manifestation, and these spirits of dead musicians had taken pleasant advantage of that fact. They came again on the following morning, and treated me fo a concert of two hours duration, exactly after the manner of the first one. This time they seemed to enjoy their own performance greatly, and the

mainer of the first one. This time they seemed to enjoy their own performance greatly and the leader even surpassed his former grace and politeness. Ah if all ghosts appeared in so pleasant a form, folks would not hasten past grave-yards at night, as they do."

Did you never see this band again?" the writer asked.

"Never." Mr. Sickles replied, with a sigh of regret. regret.

A. Widow's Story.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-So: I am a second widow, drawing a pension. I have been sick for some time, and not able to go to the office. I sent a friend some time, and not able to go to the office. I sent a friend to ask how I could get my money. I was sent a voicher, and told that I must have it filled in by a that y public, signed and witnessed, and retarned in the envelope which was given with the voiceber, and there would be no delay as a check would be sent to my address. I complied with all the directions, thought I could never have it done soon enough, being in some wont of the money. I wait of I can't say pently, for ten siave, and then sent to the office to ask the reason of the delayariand the check had gone astrong and astumed to look the person in the face who had bent me far delar to pay the notary. I got word that they had I come to it yet, that several theoremal letters are received daily and opened in turn, and when my turn came in doubt? Can belong be done so that? yet. That see the property of the property of the service of the property of t

Eighteen men in military uniform stood in the middle aisle of St Francis Xavier's Church, yester-day forenoon, while the Rev. Father Baly, with two alter ys, said a mass, without music and without remarks

Fifteen Thousand Sunkes Killed.

Col, John Maund says that on Mayor Huff's place, near Macon, i.e., the negroes in one day wore out six weeding hose chopping off the heads of snakes that were crossing from one pond to another. It was estimated that 18,000 snakes were killed. Col. Maund proved his statement by Mayor Huff.

BUNBRAMS.

-Dean Stanley recently preached in a Presby terian church near Perth, See -Four hundred Orissa Hindoos have re-

ounced their caste and become Christians. -Boston opens is Art Museum on Sunlays. Decorous speciators attend in large numbers

-The Russian Government wants to sequestrate all the monastic preperty it can lay its hands on. ...The Africans at the Mendi mission are said to be growing in grace, and are learning to observe Sanday.

-The regular weekly attendance at the twenty-two Protestant missions which are carried on in Paris is estimated at about 8,000. -At Enfield, Conn., the building of the

Congregational church being for sate, the Cathone Apos-tone Church bought it, refitted it, and reconsecrated it. -The theological seminary at New Brunswick, N. J., begins operations for the fall and winter on Tuesday next. A measure of new life has been infused

into this venerable insutouon -While playing the organ in the native Japanese church at Yokohama, Mrs. Maclay, the wife of the pastor, bowed her head in an apoptectic fit, after which she was carried out of the clurch. She died in a

-Taimage sailed yesterday from Liverpool, and may be expected here in about eight days. Both friends and foes will be ready for him when he ar-rives, and each will vie with the other in the warmth of the reception provided for him, -It is said of the Dunkers in southern B-

lines that the preachers are not paid, and the sermone are not worth paying for. The style of Dunker serinoms is one of the grounds for the dislike of the Dunkers to what they call a "hireling ministry." -The Brooklyn Temperance Brotherhood innounces a series of Great Gospet Temperance Gatherings, to be held in the Rink on the Sunday ofternoons of this month and October. These meetings will be sand-wiched in between the morning and evening services of

-The Rev. Dr. E. T. Baird, famous for his troubles in connection with the publication interests of the Southern Presdyterian Church, has gone to take charge of a Presbyterian church at McKinney Town He has been reinstated in the good esteem

-The United Presbyterian Theological Seminary at Xenta, Ohio, has opened its fall seasing to the new building, which is well built, well ventilated. and well turnished. The thirty theologues who are preparing to be preachers are glad to get out of the racket

-The Unitarians were going to hav the debt-burdened edifice of the Central Presbyterian Church.
St. Lonis, but concluded not to. They will build a besse
of worship for themselves. If the Central Pre-byterians to not raise \$40,000, the auctioneer's hammer will know wn their stately building

-The boy who cautiously and unobserved succeeded in crawling under the canvas, and worming his unpuid way into what he supposed was a circus tent, discovered to his unspeakable discust that he had intraed on a revival meeting, into which he might have the tered in the recular way without expense.

The Spiritualists did so well in their re-

cent camp meeting at Neshaminy Falls, near Philidd-phia, that they announce mother one for to day. Their rule is the reverse of the Methodist one, which closes the gates on Sunday and excludes the outside world. The un special trains from Philadelphia, and want all the -The Murray Hill Presbyterian Church

ill probably lose the pasterni services of the Rev. Geo. Chambers, who has been called to the principal Freshyterian church of Harrisburg, Pa. Mr. Chambers has don a good work among the Marray Hill people, and will and an increased field of usefulness among the sisted oliticians of the capital of the Keystone State. -An eminent clergyman returning from

Antwerp was on the steamer two Sundays, and on both was invited to preach. The organ of the demonination to which he belongs save: "After speaking for over an hour he was obliged to stop on account of his own It would be interesting to know the exact physical and mental condition of his antiene -This season's erop of Sunday school nymu and music books is, with one or two exceptions, ven more wishy-washy than usual. The tendency, both in words and music, is toward commonolace stuff and

i words and music, is lower launched on the sea of sensitiations of what has been launched on the sea of sensitiations years by other composers. The issue of such in former years by other composers. The issue of such works as the Sunday school community is now drenched with is no aid to instruction, to worship, or to imprese ment in common sense. -The Rev. H. B. Smith of Stoughton, Mass, had a wife fifteen years his senior. They had ea-dured marriage misery for eight years, the severity of Mrs. Smith's tongue being the chief difficulty. They are now at peace, owing to the derree of divorce which has been granted. After the settlement of the divorce back

ness. Brother Smith was so happy that he fainted, est was carried in a condition of insensibility to the house of -The hallelujah bands of the English nanufacturing town print some queer religious adver-isoments, but we have people in this country who can are ass them in callity. Here is the advertisement reveals aut forth by a church in this ciry:

WHEN I CAN BEAD MY TITLE CLEAR "-It will be when the market were on the Forest Street Sets." that Ericepal Church is lifted, says the Rev. by More-cuse, the beloved rastor. Buy a ticket for Saturday's

-Toronto is famous for its excellent Sugday schools and for the hearty hospitality with which the Sunday school people of Canada are welcome teenth provincial convention there on Tuesday, Wedies-The attractions announced are sufficient to draw a large attendance. The section will be held in four of the leafentirelies. The true relation of instruction to eraversion, will be one of the chief subjects for discussion.

A number of distinguished Sunday school magnates from this side the boundary have promised their personal side.

and good cheer to the Canadians. -To-day Brother Colcord reopens his afternoon preaching services at Chickering Hall. Prof. Raytlett's mammoth choir will be writing attraction. In his comblet of these services, Mr. Colcord has shown his ability to collect a large congregation in a neighborhood which is well supplied with costly churches. Many of the churches which surround, Chickering Hall are of the stately kind, whose partially filled pews attest the fact hat their eminent and learned pasters do not jurned exactly what the people want. When Mr. Colcord be-zan his services, it was said that they would be of brief duration, and that the public would not support bim. They have now continued long enough to be canked among the permanent reingnous institutions of that pare of the city. They are supported by voluntary contribu

-To-day is the day designated by Cardinai McCloskey for a collection in all the Catholic churches in all of the fund for paying Architestop Partell's debts. The collection will not be as large as is would be had the proper more faith in the raising of enough manay to satisfy the creditors. While some good Catholics are quite solous about it many observations made up their minds that the numerics debts cannot be praid, and that the only way of arriving at a steament of them is by letting the usual tankruptes precedings take their course. There is, however, so admin tails felt by many that comple can be raised to save the co-clessatical property from forfeiture. This will equiv about \$500,000. Creditors who hold the property as curity for their claims show a disposition to be indulend as to time, provided the amount can be raised by re-

peated collections.

-The demand for the election of a colored bishon does not meet with a hearty response in the Methodist Episcopal church especially among the white people. The most policious advisors see no advantage in selecting a man an account of the color of his skin. They have no objection to a colored man for bishap, provided he is in other respects a saliable man. But the number of colored men of sufficient education and direct for such an office is very houted. A monorhousely happen such as office is very limited. A man who my thin press
to be elected histop on accessing the most of the walls, and who would prove a failure in filling the wife, would be a laughing stock for the rest of his lim. There are now ten bishops, all of whom a except Blabe South are performing regular and active daty. Bishop South are coming infirm, and it is probable that he will at her next interest Conference ask to be put on the supercommanded list. Many Methodists think that mue active inslope. will be enough for some time to come. Otherwarze the election of enough to increase the number to folicit. The matter will be discussed with interest until the master ing of the General Conference, in May next.

-The conversion and immersion of 10,006 Telescopes have receitly been moted as a most remark-able result of missionary blood patrioth by the haptita. It now appears possible that this army of resultable beatien has been received in the minute of a three. The Buytists in charge of the Telegrap massion are making the most argent requests for teachers to beach the new reconvert them, and that the Reman Calli-bes are also after them. The reception of new and introduced collevers in such a wholesale in above, may have been a c-4 thing in the days of the Avistics but its wisses in these latter days is very questionable. In this country the admission of 16,000 people to church membership above time is without precedent. Were such as they alway place it would be the greatest event in the religious history of the country, and would demand the troughtful distance of a whole army of mineattention and careful labors of a whole army of minis ters and teachers. The more nurriedly converts are rushed into church membership the sooner they bee backstiders. The better they are taught and its before admission the more worthly members they are apt to be. The comparatively small force of Bartists at the Teleograp massion could not have done justice to that 10,000 lot of ignorant Teleogoos